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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/695,198	10/28/2003	Bernardo A. Huberman	200313922-1	4497

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EXAMINER

GELAGAY, SHEWAYE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2137

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/22/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/695,198	HUBERMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Shewaye Gelagay	2137	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/28/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-27 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1, 11 and 24 recite a method, device and system which take encoded attribute data, and determines whether an encoded value from the first communication device matches with an encoded value from the second device. The encoded values are compared but are not recited as being used in a disclosed practical application or at least made available for use.

Claims 2-10, 12-23 and 25-27 depending from Claims 1, 11 and 24, are also directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-6, 11-18, 24-25 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Huberman et al., "Enhancing Privacy and Trust in Electronic communities" (hereinafter Huberman)

As per claims 1 and 24:

Huberman teaches a method usable on a first communication device adapted to communicate with a second communication device, comprising:

obtaining a first key; encoding an attribute in the first communication device with the first key to produce a first encoded value; transmitting the first encoded value to the second communication device; receiving a second encoded value from the second communication device, the second encoded value comprising an attribute stored in the second communication device that has been encoded with a second key associated with the second communication device; encoding the second encoded value with the first key to produce a third encoded value; transmitting the third encoded value to the second communication device; receiving a fourth encoded value from the second communication device, the fourth encoded value comprising the first encoded value after being encoded by the second key; and determining whether the third encoded value matches the fourth encoded value. (page 80, 3.Community discovery; page 81, Private-Preference Matching; page 85, A. Cryptographic Details and Private Preference Matching)

As per claims 2 and 18:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Huberman further discloses a method wherein obtaining a key comprises generating a random number. (Page 85, Cryptographic Details)

As per claim 3:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Huberman further discloses a method wherein obtaining a key comprises reading a preprogrammed value from memory. (Page 85, Cryptographic Details)

As per claims 4 and 12-13:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Huberman further discloses a method wherein encoding the attribute with the first key comprises calculating the attribute to the power of the first key to produce the first encoded value. (page 85, Private preference Matching)

As per claims 5 and 14-15:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Huberman further discloses a method wherein the second encoded value comprises the attribute of the second device raised to the power of the second key and encoding the second encoded value with the first key comprises raising the second encoded value to the power of the first key. (page 81 and page 85, Private Preference Matching)

As per claim 6 and 16-17:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Huberman further discloses a method comprising transmitting the first communication device's attribute to the second communication device only after determining that the

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third encoded value matches the fourth encoded value. (page 85, Private Preference Matching)

As per claim 11:

Huberman teaches a communication device, comprising: a processor; memory accessible to said processor and containing an attribute and software executable on said processor; a communication interface coupled to said processor and adapted to permit the communication device to communicate with at least one other external device; wherein, by executing said software, said processor determines whether the communication device's attribute matches an attribute stored in an external device, without receiving the attributes from the external device, based on a first encoded value received via the local communication interface from the external device, said first encoded value being indicative of an attribute stored in the external device. (page 80, 3.Community discovery; page 81, Private-Preference Matching; page 85, A.

Cryptographic Details and Private Preference Matching)

As per claim 25:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Huberman further discloses a system wherein each of the first communication device and the second communication device implement a discovery mode wherein each communication device monitors for the presence of another communication device. (page 80, 3. Community Discovery)

As per claim 27:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Huberman further discloses a system wherein the first key is distinct from the second key. (page 85, Private Preference Matching)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 7, 10, 20-23 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huberman et al., "Enhancing Privacy and Trust in Electronic communities" (hereinafter Huberman) in view of Yeager et al. (hereinafter Yeager) U.S. Publication Number 2004/0133640.

As per claims 7 and 10:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. Huberman does not explicitly disclose a method comprising enabling users of the first and second communication devices to locate one another. Yeager in analogous art, however, discloses enabling users of the first and second communication devices to locate one another. (page 33, paragraph 383) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method

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disclosed by Huberman with Yeager in order to locate other users found in the discovery communication. (page 33, paragraph 383; Yeager)

As per claim 20:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. Huberman does not explicitly disclose a method wherein the processor transmits text messages to the external device via the local communication interface. (page 1, paragraph 12)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Huberman with Yeager in order to implement dynamic proximity network. (page 22, paragraph 242; Yeager)

As per claim 21:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. Huberman does not explicitly disclose a method wherein the communication interface provides a direct, wireless communication with the external device. (page 22, paragraph 242) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Huberman with Yeager to implement dynamic proximity network. (page 22, paragraph 242; Yeager)

As per claim 22:

The combination of Huberman and Yeager teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. In addition, Yeager further discloses a communication device of claim 21, wherein the communication interface implements Bluetooth. (page 22, paragraph 242)

As per claim 23:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. Huberman does not explicitly disclose a system wherein the communication device's attribute comprises an attribute selected from the group comprising contacts, phone numbers, keywords, interests, appointments and favorite restaurants. Yeager in analogous art, however, discloses the communication device's attribute comprises an attribute selected from the group comprising contacts, phone numbers, keywords, interests, appointments and favorite restaurants. (page 19, paragraph 215) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Huberman with Yeager in order to discover group of users with similar or matching interest. (page 19, paragraph 215; Yeager)

As per claim 26:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. Huberman does not explicitly disclose a system wherein, while in the discovery mode, a communication device wirelessly emits a beacon signal to locate another communication device. Yeager in analogous art, however, discloses wherein, while in the discovery mode, a communication device wirelessly emits a beacon signal to locate another communication device. (page 73, paragraph 889) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Huberman with Yeager in order to identify other users at the point of emission of the signal. (page 73, paragraph 889; Yeager)

8. Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huberman et al., "Enhancing Privacy and Trust in Electronic communities" (hereinafter

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Huberman) in view of Yeager et al. (hereinafter Yeager) U.S. Publication Number 2004/0133640 and further in view of Zacks et al. (hereinafter Zacks) U.S. Publication Number 2004/0192383.

As per claim 8:

The combination of Huberman and Yeager teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. Both references do not explicitly disclose a method wherein enabling the communication device users to locate one another comprises providing identical images on the first and second communication devices. Zacks in analogous art, however, discloses wherein enabling the communication device users to locate one another comprises providing identical images on the first and second communication devices. (page 5, paragraph 50) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Huberman and Yeager with Zacks in order to enable communication only between the communication device and detected communication device. (Abstract; Zacks)

As per claim 9:

The combination of Huberman and Yeager teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. Both references do not explicitly disclose a method wherein enabling the communication device users to locate one another comprises emitting matching audible sounds via the first and second communication devices. Zacks in analogous art, however, discloses wherein enabling the communication device users to locate one another comprises emitting matching audible sounds via the first and second communication devices. (page 5, paragraph 50) Therefore, it would have been obvious

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to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Huberman and Yeager with Zacks in order to enable communication only between the communication device and detected communication device. (Abstract; Zacks)

9. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huberman et al., "Enhancing Privacy and Trust in Electronic communities" (hereinafter Huberman) in view of Zacks et al. (hereinafter Zacks) U.S. Publication Number 2004/0192383.

As per claim 19:

Huberman teaches all the subject matter as discussed above. Huberman does not explicitly disclose a system comprising an antenna coupled to the processor, wherein the communication device is adapted to allow users of the communication and external devices to speak with one another via a service provider network. Zacks in analogous art, however, discloses a system comprising an antenna coupled to the processor, wherein the communication device is adapted to allow users of the communication and external devices to speak with one another via a service provider network. (page 8, paragraph 72) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Huberman with Zacks in order to enable communication only between the communication device and detected communication device. (Abstract; Zacks)

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See Form PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shewaye Gelagay whose telephone number is 571-272-4219. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Shewaye Gelagay


EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

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